

INL News Release
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INL, WTG sign arsenic removal technology licensing agreement

IDAHO FALLS –The U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory and Water Technology Group Inc., (WTG) Harvard, Mass., today signed a licensing agreement that provides exclusive rights to commercialize the Nano-Composite Arsenic Sorbent (N-CAS) that will improve the ability to remove arsenic from contaminated water supplies and is seven times more effective than current arsenic removal technologies.

In 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency standards reduced the maximum allowable concentration of arsenic in drinking water from 50 parts per billion (ppb) to 10 ppb creating an expensive dilemma for 4,000 American municipalities and nearly 14 million homeowners whose water resources now exceed the new limits. N-CAS will provide an economical method to treat water supplies and meet these new standards.

Signing the license for WTG, Jack Boyles, chief financial officer, said, "Since the EPA lowered the standards for arsenic in drinking water in 2006, we've seen growing public awareness of the health risks of arsenic in drinking water and frustration at the lack of effective approaches from the water industry. N-CAS technology will provide affordable, effective and manageable solutions for municipalities, small public water systems and residential systems with arsenic contamination."

INL's project manager, Troy Tranter, who led the team's research efforts, said, "This technology will aid millions of Americans and more than 70 million people around the globe who are exposed to dangerous arsenic concentrations in their drinking water."

A winner of both an international competition for the R&D 100 award and a Nano-50 award, N-CAS contains high concentrations of arsenic adsorbing nanoparticle metal oxides embedded in a strong composite polymer matrix.

The Water Technology Group (WTG) was established in 2005 to develop and market water purification technologies; and is an affiliate of Northeast Water Solutions, Inc. (NWSI; www.nwsi.net).

Idaho National Laboratory (www.inl.gov) is one of the U.S. Department of Energy's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE – energy, national security, science and environment. INL is the nation's leading center of nuclear energy research and development. Day-to-day management and operation of the laboratory is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

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